

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Florida Agricultural and  
 3           Mechanical University Industrial Hemp Program;  
 4           creating s. 1004.4473, F.S.; authorizing the Florida  
 5           Agricultural and Mechanical University to engage in  
 6           certain research related to industrial hemp under  
 7           certain conditions; creating the Industrial Hemp  
 8           Program upon approval by the Board of Trustees of the  
 9           Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University;  
 10          providing definitions; providing the purpose of the  
 11          program; requiring the university to establish an  
 12          Office of Hemp Research Compliance to manage the  
 13          program and enforce rules regulating the program;  
 14          requiring the university to adopt certain rules;  
 15          providing an effective date.

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 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 19           Section 1. Section 1004.4473, Florida Statutes, is created  
 20 to read:

21           1004.4473 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University  
 22 Industrial Hemp Program.—

23           (1) The Legislature authorizes the Florida Agricultural  
 24 and Mechanical University, upon approval by its board of  
 25 trustees, to engage in industrial hemp research in accordance  
 26 with this section and all other state and federal law.

27 (2) Subject to an affirmative vote of the Board of  
28 Trustees of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University  
29 as specified in subsection (1), there is created the Industrial  
30 Hemp Program at the university. The purpose of this program is  
31 to conduct and disseminate research related to the cultivating,  
32 harvesting, processing, and uses of industrial hemp.

33 (3) As used in this section, the term:

34 (a) "Hemp material" means any substance containing hemp  
35 stems, leaves, fibers, seeds, extracts, or oil, or any other  
36 substance derived or harvested from any species of the cannabis  
37 plant.

38 (b) "Qualified program personnel" means persons certified  
39 by the Office of Hemp Research Compliance to work in the  
40 Industrial Hemp Program. At a minimum, a person applying for  
41 certification must be 18 years of age or older, pass a criminal  
42 background check, and be either employed by, or enrolled in, the  
43 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

44 (4) In implementing the program, the university shall  
45 establish the Office of Hemp Research Compliance. The office  
46 shall manage the program and enforce rules regulating the  
47 program. The university shall also adopt rules to ensure the  
48 proper operation and security of the program. At minimum, these  
49 rules must:

50 (a) Designate the physical location of the industrial hemp  
51 research facility. Areas must be designated within the facility  
52 as general access or limited access. An area where industrial

53 hemp is cultivated, processed, stored, or packaged, or where  
54 industrial hemp research is conducted, must be designated as  
55 limited access. Access to limited access areas is restricted to  
56 qualified program personnel and to authorized visitors, who must  
57 be accompanied at all times by qualified program personnel. All  
58 other areas of the facility may be designated as general access  
59 and open to authorized visitors, with or without being  
60 accompanied by qualified program personnel.

61 (b) Establish minimum security standards for the handling  
62 of industrial hemp, including:

63 1. Processing and disposal requirements for any waste  
64 containing hemp material.

65 2. Storage, testing, research, and transportation  
66 requirements for hemp materials.

67 3. Packaging, labeling, and tracking requirements for hemp  
68 materials.

69 (c) Facilitate coordination with local and state law  
70 enforcement agencies to ensure that the program is in compliance  
71 with this section and other state and federal law.

72 (d) Establish a testing program and protocols to ensure  
73 the proper labeling of hemp material.

74 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.